



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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Social Sciences and Humanities
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Canada

REMARKS.		
17th century.	Chaplain of the Fleet Diary of Kitty Trevelyan Rob Roy Little Blue Lady Alice Lorraine Barnaby Rudge With Wolfe in Canada With Clive in India Vanity Fair Jackanapes Tale of Two Cities Atelier de Lys	Besant Mrs. Charles Scott Blackmore Dickens Henty " Thackeray Ewing Dickens Lathom Roberts
French Revolution .	On the Edge of the Storm M., the Viscount's Friend Peasant and the Prince Blockade of Phalsburg	Lathom Roberts Mrs. Ewing H. Martineau Erckmann-Chatrian
18th century.	La Vendée Mdlle. Mathilde	Trollope H. Kingsley
Foreign Countries.	Romola Lion of St. Mark Makers of Florence Makers of Venice Vittoria Lorenzo Benoni Dr. Antonio Sforza Valentine Cloister and the Hearth In Troubled Times By Royal Favour Theodora Phranga Ivan Birin A Noble Queen The Scarlet Letter True to the Old Flag With Lee in Virginia Uncle Tom's Cabin The Fair God A Great Treason Old Boston	Eliot Henty Oliphant " Meredith Ruffini Aster Reade Wallace Wilson Neale Sir A. Helps Meadows Taylor Hawthorne Henty " Beecher Stowe Wallace M. Hoppus Stephens
Italy		
The Netherlands		
Sweden		
Constantinople		
Russia		
India		
America		

The above is a full list, compiled from the seven lists sent in. Some of the very minor books have been left out. Lucy Robinson takes the prize. Mrs. Lane's reading is the more varied, and shows a wider range; but Miss Robinson's method is clear and well-classified. She also gives the fullest list. All are very interesting.

EMMELINE STEINTHAL.

THE "P.R." LETTER BAG.

[*The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.*]

DEAR EDITOR,—I should like to see an article in the *Parents' Review* dealing with punishments. I myself think that they should be natural wherever it is possible at all, and I think this may be often gained by making them negative. It seems to me that punishments as a rule cannot be used without doing harm, even although they at the same time may do good. Also, should personal resentment ever be shown on account of children's doings or rudeness, and anything like retribution exacted? These form one subject, and I think would be one of great interest.

H. B.

DEAR EDITOR,—Owing to absence abroad, I have not till now seen the protests of "A." in your December number upon the extracts which I made re "Nurses." These extracts were made from the works of men of wide experience in the religious and philanthropic world on purpose to emphasise the experiences related in several of your previous numbers, and to open the eyes of mothers who are too apt to place a blind confidence in those they engage, and lull themselves into a comfortable feeling of ease by the assurance that they have highly-paid experienced people about their children.

One has only to travel in order to hear the wails of mothers who have been rudely awakened from their dream. But I will not enlarge; only beg you to give a place in an early *Review* for the enclosed portion of Mr. Chamberlain's speech, which I cut from the *Times* of December 9, 1891, and which is considered so important that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children have deemed it wise to reprint it in pamphlet form:

"Mr. Chamberlain, at the annual general meeting of the Birmingham branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, said he performed the task with a feeling of pleasure, mingled with pain, when he reflected that, in a city like theirs, that society could find so great a scope for its operations. He did not think any words from him would be necessary in order to commend to them the objects of that society. The sufferings of little children must always appeal very keenly to the common humanity of all classes of the community. Their helplessness, their dependence upon others, the fact that they were them-

selves not responsible for the evils which they endured, all pleaded loudly on their behalf, and if sympathy was excited for them when the sufferings which they underwent were due to disease or accident, things which were, apparently, beyond human control, still more must their feelings be aroused when they knew that children were the victims of the tyranny, the cruelty, and brutality of those who ought to be their natural guardians and protectors. . . . Think how great was the difficulty of securing knowledge of these evils, and, above all, of securing proof of their existence. Most of them who were fathers of families knew how difficult it was to get children to complain of their treatment, even in families where there was not the slightest want of affection or want of confidence, but where children suffered all sorts of evils. He knew more than one case in which little children had undergone very considerable annoyance, and even injury, from the action of unfaithful servants or bad nurses, without its ever reaching the ears of their parents, who, at the first intimation of anything of the kind, would at once have stopped it. (Hear, hear.) If that was the case in their own families, where there existed the most affectionate regard between all their members, how much more must that be the case when little children knew that those to whom they ought to look for protection and care were precisely the persons from whom they were suffering cruelty?"

This statement from a leading M.P., statesman, and man of the world, should be a sufficient reply to all adverse comments.—Yours truly,

VERA.

Would the Rev. W. Danks, who wrote on religious instruction in the April 1890 number of the *Review*, kindly help me? My little boy of eight and a half, one day when I was reading the Life of our Lord to my children, exclaimed: "I always wonder if this is true!" On inquiry I found out that he "never could believe that if Jesus really was God, he could have come down and have lived like a man."

Another time, when I was ill, he thought I might die, and was very unhappy. I talked to him a great deal about Heaven, and after some time he said, "Yes; but is there really such a place as Heaven? I never can think there is." I should be most grateful for any advice, for it seems unnatural that a child should not receive everything with faith. He is very fond of reading the Bible, and has always been carefully taught by me. I know that no one can have put the ideas into his head, because he always tells me everything, and only the other day told me that a maid had informed him that "hell was all fire," much to his amazement.

FIDES.

OUR WORK.

I. *The Parents' Review* is saved, thank God, and by the will of God we truly believe. Our friends who read our urgent appeals in the last two or three numbers, that they would bestir themselves to increase the circulation, and took no notice, did not understand that we were crying to them "out of the depths," and therefore they will not measure the intensity of this thanks-giving. The publishers, who are amongst the staunchest and kindest friends of the *Parents' Review*, said in December, "Let the circulation increase, and we can go on." We appealed to our readers, and about half a dozen most kind friends responded. The publishers, who had already lost largely by the undertaking, wrote that they were not able to carry it on, adding, with a kindness and courtesy which we shall never forget (even publishers can be kind sometimes, injured authors notwithstanding):

"At the same time, we can most cordially say that both on literary and social grounds the *Review* is one with which we feel it an honour to be associated." This, from the publishers, spoken of a *Review* which does not pay them, was praise worth having. But even a *Review* cannot live upon praise, and weeks of very painful anxiety followed. Here was the heart of a great educational movement, precisely the like of which the world has never seen (we do not forget our esteemed co-workers in neighbouring fields), perishing, not for lack of support, but for lack of a very little more support. At last the idea of a subsidy was conceived, which should secure the publishers from positive loss during the year which will end in March 1893. And then we found that our friends were not indifferent—only supine. An appeal to everybody, it would appear, is an appeal to nobody. But when we wrote to individual friends and well-wishers, "The *Review* is in danger; will you help to save it?" why, "how gloriously people have responded!" says a co-worker in this effort; and so they have. Some, "believing in no effort that does not cost," have sent us more than they could spare; almost all are enthusiastic about the magazine, seeming to think that to lose it would be a calamity. "It would be a real loss to the country if it should be discontinued," wrote our always kind friends, Lord and Lady Aberdeen. And so the *Parents' Review* is safe for another year, and no one can estimate our gratitude to the friends who have saved it (their names are given below), because no one can know as the editor does in how many homes the *Parents' Review* is welcomed as a messenger of leading and light; a periodic urging towards that high ideal with which nearly all parents start.

And after the year, what next? Have we put this severe strain upon the kindness of our friends to keep the magazine alive for only one more year? Even that would be worth while; but we have asked for help in the certainty

that next year the *Review* would be self-supporting—so far, at any rate, as the costs of publication go. How is it to be made so? is the question. “Why don’t you advertise?” say some advisers; which reminds one of the princess who, when told that the people were crying for bread, said, “But why can’t they eat mutton?” Advertisements are very dear mutton indeed, which it is not for us to think of. “Make it a shilling magazine”—that would be to shut it out from many homes where it is most particularly useful; the homes of many of the country clergy, for example, whose shillings have not multiplied of late. “Make it a penny (or a threepenny, or a fourpenny) monthly, cutting out this and that.” But the *Parents’ Review* is not what is called “popular literature,” and does not appeal to the many. There is only one way out of the difficulty. Those who feel that education, as the writers in the *Parents’ Review* interpret it, is the “greatest thing in the world,” must carry the war into the enemy’s country; they absolutely *must* get new subscribers, and thereby spread a great movement, and at the same time save the organ of that movement. If every subscriber would get one other, the *Review* would be safe for evermore; but as probably only one in fifty will take up this duty (may we call it so?) it is necessary that those who do so should take the matter very seriously indeed. We should be glad to hear of any who will make it one part of their life-work to spread the *Parents’ Review*, remembering that it is none the less a philanthropic effort because it is addressed to the wealthier classes. And may we make one more appeal to all? will every reader take it as a serious duty to get one more subscriber to the *Review*?

We venture to publish the “Honours List” of our helpers. May we say that we are assured we should have had an equally hearty response from hundreds who are equally interested in our work had we been able to apply to them? (Names marked with a star are among the original promoters of the *Parents’ Review*) :—

Messrs. *Francis Steinthal, Judge Gates, H. M., H. B., Colin Somervell, *Wilhelm Müller, *Mrs. Gordon, *Mrs. Alfred Booth, *Lord and Lady Aberdeen, Mrs. Lidderdale, Mrs. Erskine Farwell, Miss A. Swanwick, Mrs. Dallas-Yorke, The Hon. Lady Ridley, Mrs. Backhouse, Messrs. John Somervell, W. H. Somervell, Mrs. Duff, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Godlee, Miss Mainprice, Mrs. Pumphrey, Mrs. Johnson.

Our New Volume.—The new features in our new volume are: The “Children’s Hour” papers, which we believe many mothers will receive as a boon; and series of papers on Philosophy, Human Physiology, Education, &c., with a view to our “Three Years’ Education Course,” which will be begun shortly. Meantime, we advise intending students to study carefully all the weightier papers in the current numbers, both theoretical and practical, as these will cover part of the ground taken up in the course. As a hint to students, may we offer the old axiom, “The mind can know nothing but what it can produce in the form of an answer to a question put by the mind to itself.”

We have substituted “*The P.R. Letter Bag*” for “Notes and Queries” and “By the Way,” as many readers desire opportunity for free discussion in the *Parents’ Review*. We beg our readers to send us notices of the books they care for.

The House of Education.—In view of the great demand for our students, we are open to receive suitable candidates after Easter. Those in training are making delightful progress.

Fésole Club.—The new year begins in March; subscription for the year one guinea, to be sent to W. G. Collingwood, Esq., Lanehead, Coniston, Lancashire. The Club is open only to subscribers to the *Parents’ Review*, and the coupon, which will be found in every copy of the *Review*, must be sent with the monthly contribution. One subscription is enough for any number of members living in the same household. Certificates are offered at the end of the year to members who have gone through the course, and a prize, to be competed for every February. Occasional papers will appear, but new members are advised to get the back numbers forming vol. ii. of the *Review* (March 1891 to February 1892), and containing the complete series of “Fésole Club Papers.” The subject will be set every month in the *Review*; and detailed criticisms and advice are sent round with the monthly portfolios. The leader does not undertake to write privately to members.

Subject for March 1892.—Read Paper I., “Wo die Citronen blüh’n”; and, instead of the lemon, draw a vase or pot (not metal or glass) *in the same manner*; any sort of pot—ornamental flower-holder, sugar-basin, antique mug, German hanap, Wedgwood ware, Sèvres china, Flemish greybeard, Oriental or Japanese pottery, Greek vase. But beginners are advised to try a common garden flower-pot; and the most advanced students will find their strength taxed by the plain kitchen jam-pot.

Der Bücherbund, for the study of German literature, continues its happy work. New students are always welcome. Apply to Miss Elsa D’Esterre-Keling, 41 Holland Road, Kensington. Yearly fee, one guinea.

“*Onward and Upward*” and “*Wee Willie Winkie*.”—Have our readers seen the annual volume of “*Onward and Upward*,” with its delightfully artistic cover—the lark “at heaven’s gate singing,” and the ploughman making straight furrows? Mothers sometimes make not quite successful efforts to introduce the *Parents’ Review* to their nurses; they (as well as their mistresses) would find delightful reading in “*Onward and Upward*,” of the kind suggested by the title of the magazine; and, as for the children, they would simply revel in “*Wee Willie Winkie*,” most fascinating little magazine.

Prizes.—Mrs. F. Steinthal awards her prize for the best list of historical novels, chronologically arranged, to Lucy Robinson.

Mrs. Schultz awards her prize (*Sesame and Lilies*), for the best account of a favourite book, to K. L. Osler.

Mrs. Alfred Priestman’s prize falls through, as there is no competitor.

Lectures by Editor.—The Editor is arranging to give a course of addresses “On the Early Training of Children,” in London, on the mornings of the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th of April. For particulars and tickets apply, The Editor *P.R.*, House of Education, Ambleside.

P.N.E.U. NOTES.

ALTRINCHAN BRANCH, Jan. 21.—A very valuable paper on "Education" was read by the Rev. W. M. Lutener. The meeting was held at Normanby, by the kind permission of Mrs. Edward Galloway. Mrs. Marshall-Rigby, hon. sec.

BRADFORD BRANCH.—A meeting was held in the Grammar School on Wednesday, Feb. 10. T. G. Roopes, Esq., H.M.I., read a paper on "Mothers and Sons: the Religious Difficulty." Hon. sec., Mrs. F. Steinthal.

KENDAL BRANCH, Feb. 25.—A meeting was held at the Museum Hall. The Hon. Mrs. Cropper read a paper on "The Religious Training of Children." Hon. secs., Colin Somervell, Esq., and J. Mason, Esq., M.D.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD AND HAMPSTEAD BRANCH.—On Feb. 4 a meeting was held at the house of the Misses Locket, when a paper was read by Dr. Eady on "The Early Training of Children." The chair was taken by the Rev. Morris Joseph. The lecture and subsequent discussion were much enjoyed, and four new members were added.

Feb. 25.—A meeting, to which the members of the Belgravia and Westminster branch were invited, was addressed by the Rev. G. A. Abbot, D.D. The subject of the lecture was "The Use of the Old Testament in the Teaching of Children." The meeting was held in their beautiful hall by the kind permission of the Misses Allen-Olney. We go to press before full particulars reach us. Hon. sec., Miss Playne.

N. S. WALES PARENTS' EDUCATIONAL UNION.—A meeting was held at St. James's Hall, Sydney, to inaugurate our first colonial daughter society. The Primate presided, and in the course of his remarks said: "The defects in human society, in the relations of parents to children, are due to ignorance, carelessness, and apathy," a statement which sufficiently shows the *raison d'être* of the P.N.E.U. Hon. sec., the Rev. H. L. Jackson.

[We learn with pleasure that we may shortly expect other colonies to follow the example of N.S.W.]

THE PARENTS' REVIEW

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE
OF HOME-TRAINING AND CULTURE.

"Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life."

THE RELIGIOUS TRAINING OF CHILDREN AT HOME.*

IF I had been asked to read a paper such as this a year ago I think I should have said that I was not able to do it; but just before Mr. S. proposed it to me I had been very much struck by some words in a lecture given by Miss Soulsby of Oxford. She said that if any one was questioned about their special work in life it was their plain duty to give the best answer they could; just as a teacher when consulted recommends the best books he knows of; and that we *ought* to be prepared to give account of our own experiences and difficulties. The religious education of children is certainly part of the main work in life of a mother of five children, and therefore I come before you to say what I can.

I take it that our subject to-day is not the enormous one of the moral training of children. The subject is great enough indeed, for it is the religious education of children; but we are not going to discuss how to deal with untruthfulness, or how to help a child to be unselfish. We have met rather to consider how to make the weapons with which a Christian soldier should fight, and not how to teach him how to use them.

* An address read before "neighbours," in a branch of the P.N.E.U.
VOL. III.—NO. 2.